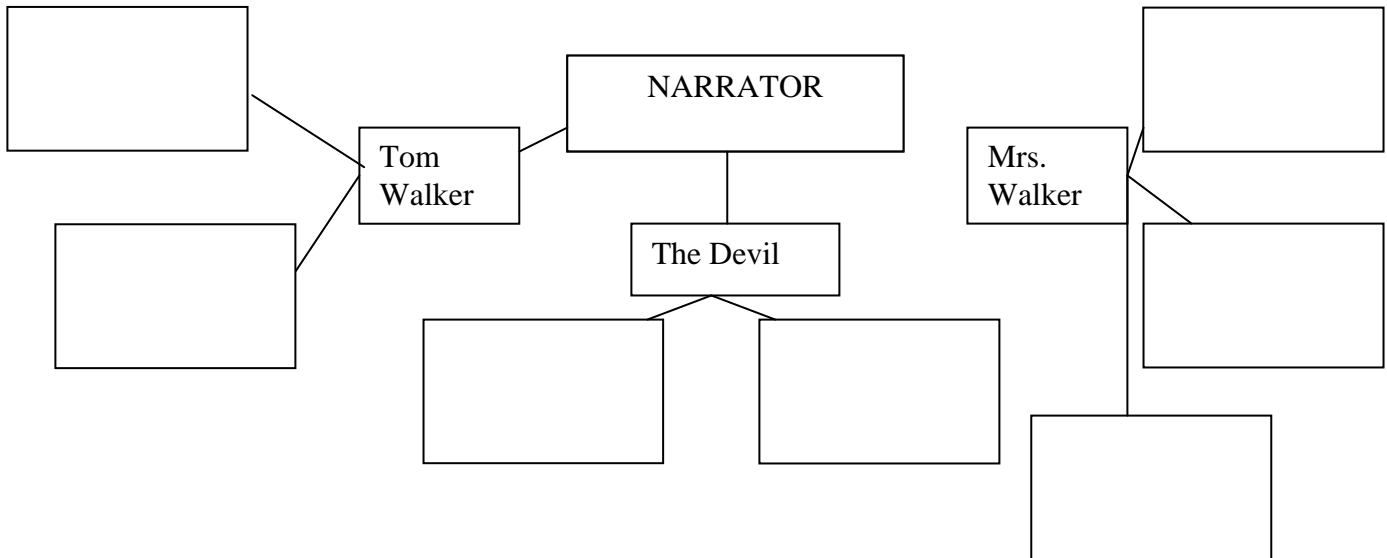


“The Devil and Tom Walker”

1. setting:
2. Point of View –
Give examples in which the narrator reveals the thoughts and feelings of characters –



3. Describe the devil’s trees. What do they symbolize?
4. What is the devil’s signature?
5. Why does Tom say the devil must have had a tough time with his wife?
6. What does the devil want Tom to do for the money? Why won’t he do it? What does he finally agree to do?
7. Characterization –
Identify 3 things learned about Tom through direct characterization.

Describe the relationship between Tom and his wife (revealed through indirect characterization)

What does the description of the house and the horse reveal about the Walkers?

PUT ON YOUR THINKING CAPS!!!!

8. What does “old Scratch” personify? (not the Devil!)
9. List 3 examples of Tom’s hypocrisy –

10. Possible themes?

11. Characteristics of Romanticism evident in the story –

9.

Characteristics of Folk Tales	Example from “The Devil and Tom Walker”
Long, local history	
Relate unusual or unlikely events	
Involve stereotypical or stock characters	
Teach a lesson or express a general truth about life	
May have an allegorical meaning	

10. Look at “The Devil and Tom Walker” as an allegory – (for the American economic system?)

What might each of these represent?

Old Scratch

Murky woods

Trees

Tom Walker

Tom’s short cut through the woods

11. Is Irving satirizing an individual, a society, or all of humankind? Explain, using examples from the text. At what foibles does he level his attack?

12. Dramatic irony is a literary device whereby a character inadvertently speaks the truth, foreshadowing tragic events of which he is unaware. Find the sentence in the conclusion of the tale where Tom makes this kind of ironic statement.